## CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A remote control device that is configured to facilitate control of a plurality of electronic devices, comprising:

an input device that is configured to accept a user input and provides therefrom a control signal for control of a first device of the plurality of electronic devices, and

a receiver that is configured to receive a parameter from a second device of the plurality of electronic devices, and,

a transmitter that is configured to:

communicate the parameter from the second device to the first device, and,

communicate the control signal to the first device to effect the control of an appliance function of the first device.

2. The remote control device of claim 1, wherein

the receiver is further configured to receive an other parameter from the first device, and

the transmitter is further configured to communicate the other parameter from the first device to the second device.

3. The remote control device of claim 2, further including

a controller that effects the communication of the parameter and the other parameter.

4. The remote control device of claim 3, wherein

the controller effects the communication of the parameter and the other parameter to establish a cryptographic key exchange.

5. The remote control device of claim 4, wherein

the cryptographic key exchange corresponds to a Diffie-Hellman key exchange.

6. An electronic device comprising:

a transceiver that is structured to receive control commands from a remote control device,

an appliance apparatus that effects a processing of input information in dependence upon the control commands,

a parameter generator that produces a parameter for communication to an other device, and wherein,

the transceiver is also structured to transmit the parameter, thereby effecting the communication of the parameter to the other device.

7. The electronic device of claim 6, wherein

the transceiver is also structured to receive an other parameter that is communicated from the other device.

8. The electronic device of claim 7, wherein

the parameter generator also produces

a cryptographic key based on the other parameter that is communicated from the other device.

9. The electronic device of claim 8, wherein the parameter generator produces the parameter and the cryptographic key in accordance with a Diffie-Hellman key exchange technique.

10. The electronic device of claim 6, wherein the appliance apparatus includes at least one of: a set-top box, a tuner, a display device, a recording device, and a playback device.

11. A method for effecting a parameter exchange between a first device and a second device, the first device and the second device each having a transceiver that communicates with a remote control device to facilitate control of the first device and the second device via the remote control device, the method comprising:

transmitting a first parameter from the first device via a transmitter of the transceiver of the first device, and

receiving the first parameter at the second device via a receiver of the transceiver of the second device.

12. The method of claim 11, further including:

receiving the first parameter at the remote control device, and

transmitting the first parameter to the second device from the remote control device.

13. The method of claim 11, further including:

transmitting a second parameter from the second device via a transmitter of the transceiver of the second device, and

receiving the second parameter at the first device via a receiver of the transceiver of the first device.

14. The method of claim 13, further including:

receiving the second parameter at the remote control device, and

transmitting the second parameter to the first device from the remote control device.

15. The method of claim 13, further including:

generating a first cryptographic key at the first device based on the second parameter, and

generating a second cryptographic key at the second device based on the first parameter,

wherein the second cryptographic key is suitable for a decryption of material that is encrypted using the first cryptographic key.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the first cryptographic key and the second cryptographic key are substantially equal.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein the generating of the first and the second cryptographic keys is based on a Diffie-Hellman key-exchange technique.